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MARY'S MESSAGE:
 In this issue we give you lots to be excited about. Things are heating up this summer in more ways than one. West Chester is soon to be home of three new Thai restaurants, we give you the lowdown of where they are and what to expect. Also in this issue we give you the goods on hot specials at some of our favorite advertisers. We tell you which ads to take a closer look at to find out how to save the most during the recession at some of your favorite places.

Don't forget to check out our recipes, reviews and info about all the food and entertainment in Chester County. Until next time...

Cheers everyone!
 Mary Bigham
Contributing Editor
 www.wcdish.com

COMING:
 Concierge Chronicles, Random Rants, the Bartender, Sound Check and much more

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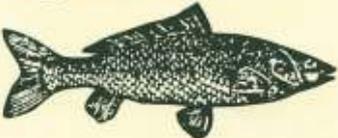
THE CONCIERGE CHRONICLES

THE BIG EASY SALOON

BY KEN ALAN
WC DISH WRITER, CORPORATE CONCIERGE, AND FOOD WRITER



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I've always been dismayed that there are so few restaurants specializing in the bayou-bold flavors indigenous to NOLA.

My first visit to Louisiana's "Big Easy" was a bachelor party celebration for my best buddy, Bill, along with seven other guys. While there, our chronically inebriated group made several exciting discoveries: unbelievably delicious Po' Boys at a Garden District institution called Mother's; learning that you can't carry around too many sets of colorful beads, and just as enlightening, we ended up solving the age-old question: How many adults will fit into a moving Peugeot 505?

Back home, I've always been dismayed that there are so few restaurants specializing in the bayou-bold flavors indigenous to NOLA.

Sure, I've been to local notables like Crawdaddy's (West Chester) and Chadds Ford's own New Orleans Café, plus, my favorite find of all - a

tiny lunch counter called Cajun Kate's, which is tucked away in Booths Corner, near the Delaware state line.

Within the last year though, I've been venturing to the aptly named Big Easy Saloon, which sits very road house-like along Paoli Pike, just off the Route 30 main drag. Since it opened 2+ years ago, the Big Easy has amassed a heat-seeking clientele who go for the authentic Cajun & Creole fare, live ragtime 'n blues music nightly, and a fun Bourbon Street-worthy experience.

Not since Paoli's legendary restaurant/nightclub, Orleans, which closed its doors nearly two decades ago, has this town had such a spirited, pan-fried hot spot.

The success of The Big Easy is due, in large part, to its chef, Dan Funk,

whose passion about traditional New Orleans fare is most evident in his menu of tried and true classics. Many usual suspects are in play, including big-flavored gumbos, spicy jambalaya, and the zippy Etouffee,

The saloon's interior translates nicely from its previous incarnation, a long-running Italian joint called Luigi's. Now, thanks to many prints of be-bopping musicians and murals of Sachmo in action, plus an ongoing Zydeco soundtrack, The Big Easy really does resemble "The Big Easy."

As does Dan Funk's culinary renditions - Andouille Meatloaf is a heaping and saucy mountain of sausage-spiked ground beef & pork with bacon, topped with a smoky/sweet BBQ sauce; Cherry cola ribs are succulent (more emblematic of St. Louis

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GOOD ART AND GOOD BEER?

BY JUSTIN MCANENY
STAFF WRITER



What else do you need? Maybe food. If that's it, then Victory Brewing Co. had you covered at its third annual Victory Collaborative which was held on July 19.

Christine Yorick, an artist herself, decided it would be a great way to showcase local artists in an establishment that is big on local art.

Regulars, employees and other artists are able to participate and show their craft whether it's visual art (paintings, sculptures, etc. ...), sing songs, read stories and poetry or any other type of art that they would wish to perform. "I like the idea that (Victory) is trying to bring in local art," said bartender Megan John, who is also an artist herself.

Although Yorick no longer works at Victory, she still organizes the event each year. "I want Victory to have involvement in the arts and promote local artists," she said.

And with being in the Great Beer Hall of the restaurant, Yorick is able to keep it family friendly.

Justin Piccari, an artist who displayed his work at the collaborative was a Victory regular who met Yorick and then decided to display his work at the collaborative. "The collaborative is a time to get your name out there and talk about art," Piccari said.

With 10 artists that displayed their work, the collaborative is something that Victory obviously supports and Yorick has no plans of stopping.

"It's a collaborative for local artists ... they can get together and show their work and we're happy to help them," said Diane Desiderio, a restaurant manager for Victory.



Local musicians get to 'jazz it up' at the Kimmel Center

BY JESSICA CORRY
SPECIAL TO CC



Not many students have the opportunity to perform at the Kimmel Center but participants in the Teen Summer Jazz Camp are not the typical high-schoolers.

The 50 students taking part the 7th annual camp all share one thing in common: a passion for music. Throughout an intense two-week period, the talented young electric bassists, pianists, drummers, guitarists, tuba, saxophone and trombone players work with highly respected teaching artists to develop their jazz skills.

The program culminates with a "Moments of Sharing" performance in the Perelman Theater of the Kimmel Center where the students have the chance to showcase all they have learned.



"These are really good, very talented kids from all

over the tri-state area, with a mix of ages ranging from 14 to 18," said Marc Johnson, Kimmel Center teaching artist. "Music is thing keeping them all together."

Acceptance into the camp is by audition and selected students receive a full-tuition scholarship to attend. Each day is structured into one-hour segments, with students rotating between intensive coaching sessions, small group instruction and big-band style ensemble work, with the entire group playing together.

According to Johnson, the program encompasses all styles of jazz music, including traditional, modern, swing, Afro-Cuban and Caribbean.

Improvisation is at the core of jazz, he continued, and campers learn the different parts of music theory in order to develop the needed skills because "improvisation is a little more than just taking a shot in the dark."

Three Chester County musicians, attended the camp: siblings Michelle and Peter Guo as well as Neal Patel. Although each had attended the camp previously, Michelle Gou, a 16-year old classical pianist who

plays jazz for fun, said the audition was still intimidating.

"I'm not going to lie, the audition process it pretty difficult. [Marc Johnson] made us all really nervous because he has such high expectations," explained Gou. "But the experience turned out extremely well. My favorite part was working with such knowledgeable teachers and meeting so many talented students in the same place."

Gou and her brother, a 15-year old alto saxophone player, learned of the camp two years ago when he participated in the Kimmel Center Youth Jazz Ensemble.

"In my opinion, the best part of the camp is working in small groups," said the younger Gou. "The horn group rotates between rhythm groups, so we got play with every group and with new teachers who all had different styles. Working together, we created musical fusion and learned a lot from one another." However, the camp is not only about learning music. Friendships form between participants with so much in common and the Gou siblings

agreed seeing their friends again this summer was one of the best parts about returning to camp for a second session.

"Music is my passion so I am a stickler for doing it the right way, but I do understand that life comes first," said Johnson. "The fact that these musicians get to meet students they never would have had the chance to meet is just great. They have opportunities to socialize and talk and it's kind of neat to see the relationships form."

Johnson explained education is an important aspect of the Kimmel Center. Since the dedication of the Merck Arts Education Center in 2002, the education department has offered free arts education classes in music, dance and theater throughout the school year in addition to the summer tuition-free teen arts camp aimed at those specifically involved in the performing arts.

"The Kimmel Center was paid for by the public not just to be the home of the Philadelphia Orchestra but to

be a hall for the people of the region," explained Johnson. "It is important to realize it is also not just for adults. We need to involve kids as well because they are the next generation. The education department was formulated to expose children of the region to music and American culture."

The Teen Arts Camp is funded by the Sidney Kimmel Foundation and is divided into four sessions: choral/vocal camp, jazz camp, chamber music camp and pipe organ camp, thus catering to students in all realms of the performing arts.

"I have been working with kids for a while and the best part is seeing the ones I've taught as they move forward in life," said Johnson. "This experience is going to stay with them forever and, whether they remain in music or not, it's a great feeling to know I helped them become productive citizens through music."



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ON THE TOWN

TURKS HEAD MUSIC FEST
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the city, than the French Quarter's own St. Louis Street). Southern fried chicken is always a tasty favorite, and his jambalaya would make famed N'awlins chef Paul Prudhomme, proud.

Purists may raise an eyebrow at the Saloon's Shrimp Bourbon Orleans – hardly the white wine and Worcestershire-laced head-on classic found at the Crescent City's famed Pascal's Manale. And, a recently ordered BBQ chicken and shrimp Po' Boy, though filling (and served on a great French loaf), brought treacle-y cubes of poultry, in lieu of the slow-cooked, shredded transcendence enjoyed at the aforementioned Mother's. Still, the Big Easy fare is always made-to-order, copious to the nth power, and it hits all the basic notes - legitimate renditions of those masterful originals.

Other visits had me enjoying the crab cakes, and Funk's Voodoo shrimp, which yields enough fiery scorch to merit an Emerile "Bam!"

Service, at times, is casual to a fault. Several times, I've experienced "in the weeds" frenzy, or, quite the opposite, staffers who showed unconcern and a lack table maintenance standards. This last visit alone struck a dull clank of irony with me; hearing the waitress complain it was "the slowest lunch shift of the year," while her two-top waved in vein for their check - ten minutes after taking last bites.

While consistency issues may be cause for managerial consideration, no one can knock the talents of Chef Dan Funk and his kitchen crew. They help keep The Big Easy Saloon hopping into the wee hours, and certainly, bring a "ga-ron-teed" taste of the Gulf to this otherwise Cajun-less neck of the county.

Oh, in case you were wondering, the answer to how many of us were able to fit into that Peugeot: 11

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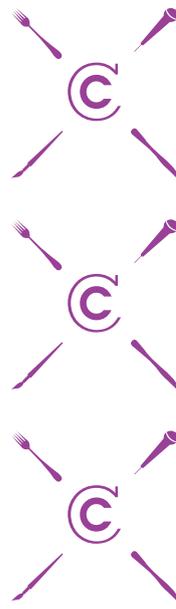
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CHEF Q&A



BY
MARY
BIGHAM
WC DISH

SOCIAL ITALIAN

*An interview with The Italian Social Club's Executive Chef John Giannantonio
Italian Social Club (610) 436-4553 329 E Gay Street West Chester PA 19380*

Q: So how many years have you been cooking?

A: 25 years.

Q: Whoa, whoa... how old are you?

A: I'm forty years old.

Q: You're kidding? You look great. I would have never guessed, do you use Just For

Men or is that all natural?

A: Nope, it's all natural, I've just got good genes.

Q: Okay, sorry about that, anyway... back to the interview. So, 25 years. Where did you grow up?

A: I grew up in Delaware County and started working in a kitchen when I turned 15 years old.

Q: Did you work in a kitchen because you loved it or was it just a job?

A: My father made me get a job at that age. I remember going to my job after school when all my friends would go to sports practice or just hang out and I would have to go to work at a restaurant. I worked at a very popular restaurant in Springfield and started with dishes. By the time I was a Senior in High School I was a full time line cook. Ever since I've just worked with food. Well, with the exception of construction work in the summer with my dad and I was a waiter once too.

Q: Where did you go from there?

A: My wife is from central Pennsylvania and I was cooking in Lewisburg, PA doing mostly American fusion for about 10 years and then it was time to

move on to something new. We moved back to the area and when this job came up, I applied for it and I got it. I was hired in February of 2009 and I was very excited about the opportunity.

Q: It must be a unique situation to cook for a club verses a standard restaurant. What are some of the differences?

A: Well, this has been very fun and challenging (in a good way). I was excited to get back into real Italian cooking and they told me I had to come up with a menu and a staff within the first week I started. They didn't have the dining room done yet so I didn't know what to envision as the dining experience.

Q: How did you plan a menu for a space that had yet to be created?

A: I decided to go with dishes that I knew sold well or were popular at other restaurants where I worked and I focused on traditional Italian classics. I went back to my grandmother's recipes that my mother always made, like lasagna. (He laughs) That lasagna is a pain to make because it takes forever, but it's so worth it. It's a timeless dish and people love it.

Q: Is there a secret to your cooking that everyone is raving about?

A: Well, I use Carlino's pasta, I think it's the best so I want to serve the best to our customers. I also think that coming here should be like having dinner at home on a Sunday. Every mom has a special touch that they put into their food and I try to do that here for our guests. I spend a little too much time on dishes sometimes and that gets me into trouble. Oh yeah, (he jokingly adds) I'm also very OCD, I pay a lot of attention to the details. That's the difference from an average dish to an incredible dish.

Q: People have said that The Italian Social Club has some of the best Italian food in the area for the most reasonable price. How do you do it?

A: It's a combination of having limited space and me wanting to put out the best food. Because we are a smaller establishment, I don't have a lot of storage so I am always ordering fresh produce and ingredients. I order and make things fresh daily so they are vibrant and delicious. I also never want to copy other styles, I have to be true to myself. I've done that since I got the job and so

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far it's been successful so I can't complain.

Q: Is the space a problem for seating?

A: During the week we aren't as crowded but on the weekends you have to not mind waiting a little while for a table. It's worth the wait and reservations are recommended.

Q: What can we look forward to in the next year from you?

A: I have no idea (he jokes). We will continue to do our Men's Night on the third Monday of each month that sells out every time because for \$25 we serve seven courses. We are going to start ladies night on the first Monday of the month and for \$20

ladies will get chef's choice courses including an appetizer, salad, pasta, entree and dessert. We will also be starting lunch in September where you can get half the dinner sized portions for half the price.

WHAT IS THE ITALIAN SOCIAL CLUB?

It's a members club but non-members can come for dinner and a drink. You must be a member for more drinks or to use the bar. Anyone can apply for membership. Prices are \$35 pp or \$50 for married couples.

Special Shout out goes to Mario Berardi Jr, Vince Berardi, Tommy Ciccarone, John Barone and the others who helped bring this club to life.

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BY
MARY BIGHAM
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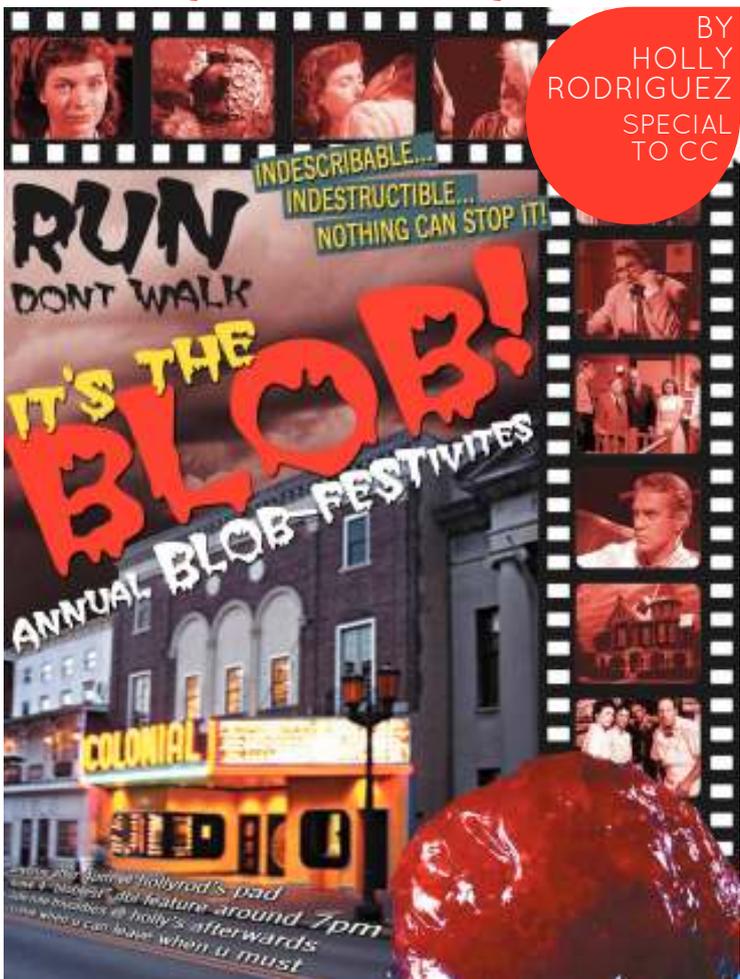
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BY HOLLY RODRIGUEZ SPECIAL TO CC

Eight years ago I discovered what would become one of my favorite celebrations of the year ... Blobfest. I noticed a small ad cut out of a local newspaper & hung on a friend's refrigerator. The ad was for what was, at the time, a small festival celebrating the movie *The Blob*, which was filmed in Phoenixville, Downingtown & surrounding Pennsylvania areas. A seminal scene of the movie is in The Colonial Theatre, which still stands in Phoenixville & is the focal point of Blobfest.

A couple friends & I decided it sounded like something that we should attend. We headed out late that Saturday evening to take in the "late show" of *The Blob*. That was the 3rd annual Blobfest, in July 2002. Since that night, the Blobfest has become an annual event in the "Rodriguez household". Each year I dye my hair bright red & have a get together, featuring red drinks, large amounts of red finger Jell-o, & other red foods, to celebrate our Chester County "Hollywood History". Then we head out for Blobfest. Some years there have been quite a few of us, some years, like this year for instance, it

has been a smaller gathering. But either way, we always have a grand time!

The first year we attended the Saturday late show of Blobfest there was a small scattering of people in the theatre. Somewhere between 25 and 50 I'd say. It may have been small, but it was still interactive. Shouts of "don't go in there" & "run while you can" could be heard every now & then. Some years the crowds have been more interactive than others. One year, we were given some fairly dirty looks in reaction to our cries. My response? "This is Blobfest. We're supposed to be obnoxious!" It seems to me, the more interactive the crowd, the better. That's part of what makes it so enjoyable. One year they had big "traffic lights" on stage with instructions as to what to do when different lights turned on. For instance, we were supposed to stomp feet with one color, gasp with another color, etc. Interaction that is directed is fun, but obviously not as creative!

Since that first year I attended Blobfest, the late show has grown exponentially. The past couple years

there has hardly been a seat left in the house! In 2003 the late show was expanded to be a double feature. That year, they screened the eerie black/white film noir flick *Daughter of Horror* which is the movie that the kids in *The Blob* are seen watching at the Colonial Theatre. In 2004 the double feature was *The Blob & Night of the Living Dead* (also filmed in Pennsylvania) & Kyra Schon, who played the daughter in *NotLD* was a special guest. In 2005 the double feature was moved up from a 10:30pm to a 8:30pm show & the earlier hour produced a much bigger crowd in the theatre which has only seemed to grow each year since. The afternoon double features are a big success as well. They have sold out the past two years.

This year's double feature with *The Blob* was the original *13 Ghosts* complete with special glasses that allow the viewer to either see the ghosts (in semi-3D) or not see the ghosts when they are onscreen. There was a storyline about the family lawyer having a "secret" with the family's young boy (& involves a late eve-

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ning visit to the boy's bedroom) ... you can imagine the crowd conversation about that!

This year, we finally got to the theatre early enough to sit in the balcony. So we were particularly rowdy when the balcony scenes came on screen.

Before the late show & in-between the films, Blobfest attendees are treated to the antics of the characters of *Ghoul-A-Go-Go*, a retro-style children's cable access TV show featuring dancing, skits & film/cartoon clips. The characters Creighton, Vlad and the Invisible Man come to Blobfest in person & perform their usual mayhem which always involves the Blob getting "lost" in the theatre somewhere (he was under my seat one year). This year they had a raffle in which a girl won a "dead body" (i.e. uncooked chicken). Ironically, turned out she was a vegetarian!

Another interactive element of the late show is performed by the staff. Generally, there is some kind of stunt aimed at scaring audience members. This year, persons were dressed as skeletons sneaking up behind people & ghosts were dangled over the crowd. In previous years, glow in the dark creatures have been used, as well as buzzers, & people dressed like creatures from the films.

Though I have personally only attended the Saturday night activities of Blobfest, there is a whole weekend of fun each year. Friday nights involve a stage show, live music, and awards ceremonies (contests include short videos, screams, tinfoil hats, & scripts) and the infamous Running Out Re-Enactment in which those in the theatre re-enact the best known scene from *The Blob*. Saturday has festives from 11 in the morning until the late show is over around midnite. These include a street fair, afternoon double features of *The Blob* & various other films, the Fire Extinguisher Parade, trivia



contests, live music, & costume contests. There is usually one or two last showings of the Blob on Sunday as well to finish off the weekend.

A particularly memorable moment from Blobfest 10 was running 6 blocks through town to my car in the torrential downpour. We were soaked to the skin & laughing so hard we were crying by the time we got there. It's been a long time since I've seen a thunderstorm as good as that!

If you have not yet made it to Blobfest, I would highly recommend that you attend some or all of the festives next year! If you go to the late show (where else can you watch two movies for ten bucks?!), I'll see you there!

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INEBRIATED BY ART



BY
JAMES
LEE
BURK

I would like to start off by thanking everyone who came to the studio tour June 27, like anything in life, the tour had its highlights and failures -- our glassblower backed out Saturday morning. There is a special place in hell for people who don't follow through on promises and make other's successes failures. So anyone who went on the tour and walked to organic glass only to be disappointed, I apologize.

The tour, overall, was a success. There were many new faces and hopefully a renewed appreciation for art in its many forms.

My mural project is underway and can be viewed by pedestrians as they walk down Wilmont Muse alley right off of Miner Street in West Chester. I will be working on it for a few months so feel free to drop by and talk to the sweaty homeless looking guy painting on it – that's me, James Lee Burk.

This summer, if you're going for a walk around town please drop by and give me a how do you do. So enough about our show and my mural for now (I am currently looking for people to model as trees so stop by and see me if you're interested. The models will not be paid but refreshments and immortality wait for you).

The advice I have for this week is that on these hot summer days when you go out to eat or drink, remember that in the comfort of your casual drinking or eating attire in the relaxation of air conditioning, your servers, bartenders and cooks are toiling in the heat of the kitchen or the backwash of heated refrigeration blowing on their tired, working, bodies. Remember that if they are short with you or a little slow or backed up, remember they are working in the heat of the kitchen hustling along trying to satisfy your every whim, be a little more patient and understanding because just like you, the heat can make anybody a little slower or impatient.

West Chester in summer can be a little oasis in the heat of the summer. A place you can come to relax in the cool interiors of its establishments to the beauty of the sun drenched sidewalks all a bustle with life and

vitality. So welcome. Come into town and enjoy its hospitality. You will be welcome with its sweaty, outstretched arms and cradled by its ample bosoms.

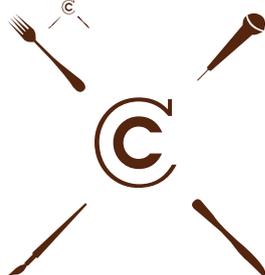
This summer, when some of you can't get away to some foreign, local or sun swept beach, remember the cool waters of the Brandywine are but a stones throw away from town and by stones throw I mean about a half mile outside of town. For you see I can throw a stone very far so never get in a fight with me if you live in a glass house because I can throw far and long and there are many rocks down by the river.

Anyway, getting back to our serious conversation -- please come out and support your local businesses this summer and remember that a simple please and thank you can go a very long way on a hot day when people are grumpy and tired -- people like me, so if I yell at you this summer for being stupid or obnoxious, remember I am hot and tired and probably meant everything I said but I apologize in advance for the tirade of heat sweat and misery that come with working a job that implies your relaxation is my hustle.

So once again thanks for letting me bend your ear and remember, please and thank you go a long way on a hot summer day.

And of course, I would like to thank everyone who participated in the studio tour: artist and fans alike and hope the rest of your summer to be memorable.

-- Please and thankfully yours, James



OUT & ABOUT

BY
LAUREN
BEAUCHAMP
SPECIAL TO CC



LATELY, I'VE BEEN TRYING TO MAKE MORE ECONOMICALLY SOUND DECISIONS WITH MY SPENDING. DRINKING A HURRICANE FORTY ON THE SIDEWALK INSTEAD OF GOING TO A BAR MAY SOUND CLASSLESS TO SOME, BUT I JUST CALL IT "SMART BUDGETING." MY FRIEND AND I ARE ADMIRING HOW FAR OUR BACHELOR'S DEGREES GOT US TO COME UP WITH THIS MARVELOUS IDEA WHEN WE DECIDE TO GO TO FENNARIO'S.

I'm thinking that probably four people will be outside because it's a Thursday night, but to my surprise the street was packed. At one point, I even thought there could be a possibility of the show selling out. I ventured inside to purchase my hand stamp. Now, faithful readers may recall my last Fennario run-in where the girl at the desk had not a clue -- however this time was thankfully a lot different.

Upstairs, the air conditioning was on. I could write a sixty-eight page ode about how grateful I was to not immediately sweat 40 pounds off -- but I'll save that for another time and place.

The lineup started with Spit on a Stranger, followed by Pirouette and ending with About a Million. Now, what is unique to this lineup is: a lot of the members overlap in the bands. I went to a few shows with this before, but picked on it because the sounds were the same. This is not the case, which is impressive because it displays how talented all the musicians are.

When I went upstairs, Spit on a Stranger was already playing. Prior to this show and going off Myspace recordings, I didn't know exactly how I felt about them. I definitely became a fan after hearing "Bottles in the Summer" live.

The crowd was huge. Everyone was with-

out doubt interested, and movement started to occur. Good music and moving coincide. If the music was awful, everyone would probably be sitting on the ground Indian style drinking coffee and making friendship bracelets -- bands don't want that to happen. Spit on a Stranger ended and Pirouette began. The crowd became even more hyped for Pirouette.

They've been around for a while now and I'd say the best way to describe them is just "happy indie music." Their set literally was destroyed. Apparently all the movement made a crack in Fennario's floor or ceiling (the stage is on the second floor, above the coffee shop)? Either way the exact series of events was intense and basically followed this outline: 1. song would start 2. kids would freak out 3. Fennario's staff would freak out, ask everyone to stand still or the show would be over.

This happened anywhere between four to six times and I really didn't get it. Not only did no one listen, but the redundancy just got annoying. So finally I'm thinking Pirouette will manage to get one song finished without interruption when I turn around and see a legitimate fight occur. Really, though? A fight during Pirouette-never thought this day would come.

Pirouette then clears off the Fennario's carpet stage and About a Million quickly

sets up and just stares as the fight just increases as opposed to decreases. A stiletto shoe is being used as a weapon has half the kids involved in this fight while the other half including myself just want to hear About a Million. In a few minutes the fight is transferred elsewhere and I finally get to hear what I've been waiting for.

About a Million probably plays less than two shows a year. Last year three albums were put out at once and I cannot stress how good each and everyone was. If I had to make any comparisons, I'd bring up Modest Mouse's album "The Lonesome Crowded West." Every song on that CD is different but still amazing; that's how About a Million is.

Playing for a now much smaller crowd and quickly just incase the floor collapsed, About a Million played an entirely new EP and then handed it out to the crowd for free. I left the show thoroughly impressed and was greeted by a fleet of bike cops and an actual police car. Apparently the fight continued and the person that started it got arrested or at least thrown in the back of the cop's car.

- Lauren

Center Stage



ERIN McKEOWN PLAYS AREA SOLO SHOW TO PROMOTE HER NEW RELEASE



BY
ROB NAGY
SPECIAL
TO CC

On June 28, 2009 singer songwriter Erin McKeown returned to the area to perform a solo show as part of the summer long Sunday music series "Concerts Under The Stars", which is running through August 9th in the park adjacent to the Upper Merion Township Building. McKeown, who has done very little performing this year, graced the stage for over an hour playing selections from her earlier albums while showcasing new songs from her impending release "Hundreds of Lions", which is due to be released in October of this year. McKeown was

her usual engaging and vibrant self immediately connecting with a respectable crowd of several hundred people who braved the threatening weather to see her perform. McKeown first came into prominence back in the mid nineties as a semi-finalist in the mid-Atlantic song contest held by the songwriters association in Washington, D.C. Shortly thereafter she started her own record label, TVP Records releasing her 1998 debut "Monday Morning Cold". Subsequent albums followed suit, "Distillation (2000), "Grand" (2003), "We Will Become Like Birds" (2005), "Sing You Sin-

ners" (2007) and "Lafayette" (2007). Playing the club and coffee house circuit through-out New England and beyond, McKeown's unique folksy pop sound caught on with a growing allegiance of fans and alternative and college radio. Her ability to play both solo and fronting her band, showcased her diverse talents as a unique and gifted artist. While putting the finishing touches on her next release McKeown has been performing occasional solo dates around the U.S. On July 7th she hosted the first of a series of live webcast shows via the internet where she performed from the living room of her lake front Massachusetts home. Three more of these performances from her home are scheduled for July 16th, July 22nd and July 26th. The cost is a modest \$10.00 per event with all proceeds benefiting the recording and release of her newest release "Hundreds of Lions". To view trailer and order access go to www.erinmckeown.com Look for McKeown to return to Philadelphia this fall with the support of a full band. For more info on Erin McKeown go to www.erinmckeown.com Photos by Rob Nagy

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SOUND CHECK

FROM
LIGHTS OVER RENO:
TODD, BEN, LEE,
BRANDON



WITH LIGHTS OVER RENO

TELL ME WHO YOU ARE AND WHAT YOU DO IN THE BAND.

Lee: I'm Lee, I play guitar in Lights Over Reno.

Brandon: I'm Brandon, I play drums.

Todd: I'm Todd, I uh, play guitar and sing...a little bit.

Ben: I'm Ben I play bass.

HOW DID YOU GUYS MEET AND START PLAYING TOGETHER?

Lee: Ben and I having been playing together for a lot of years, I think we were in college.

Ben: I was still in high school! You were in college.

Brandon: Really, it's a Cinderella story (laughs)

Ben: That band broke up.

Todd: What band was that?

Ben: Against Fate.

Todd: Hmm. I didn't know that. We're all getting to know each other!

Ben: I ran into Lee again later and he knew another guitar player who introduced us to Brandon. That was the band prior to this. Then he ended up, well...we fired him. Then I knew Todd from high school and he was hanging around so...

Lee: This lineup has been around since 2006.

Brandon: We have an EP out and a new record on the way.

COULD YOU DESCRIBE YOUR BAND IN COLORS AND EMOTIONS?

Todd: Synesthesia...

Everyone: Wha? Huh?

Todd: Synesthesia, when your senses get mixed up, you see sounds or hear colors.

Everyone: Oh! right, yeah, yeah.

Ben: That was a good one.

Todd: See! I know stuff!

Ben: I would say yellow, the color of humility.

Lee: Is that the color of humility? I thought that was the color of cowardice.

Ben: No, uh, I think that's white.

Lee: That's the color of surrender.

Todd: We're color blind!

HOW ABOUT EMOTIONS?

Ben: Anyone have emotions?

Brandon: I stopped feeling a long time ago.

Todd: Frantically Whimsical.

Lee: Bi-polar.

Todd: It's hard because we're there through the whole song writing process, the whole rang of emotions. It's hard to be objective.

WHERE DO YOU THINK THE SONGS COME FROM ORIGINALLY? THE BASE EMOTION? I MEAN, I KNOW I'M AN INCREDIBLY ANGRY PERSON.

Uncomfortable silence, nervous laughter.

Ben: Well, it's everything.

Lee: I guess it depends on who writes the song.

Todd: For me a lot of it's introspection.

Kind of removed.

Lee: We also like to bring in a song, and then have it totally change gears.

Todd: Yeah, sometimes I bring in a song, and it totally changes, and I don't always like it...but then I learn to like it.

WHERE DOES YOUR NAME COME FROM?

Todd: It was very democratic. We all came up with different names. Ben was really into "Valor Sunset"

Todd: I was actually born in Reno, Mississippi.

Mike: Really?

Todd: No but it sounds good.

WHAT'S THE LAST GREAT SHOW YOU SAW?

Lee: I saw Wilco at the Blue Rocks Stadium.

Brandon: Camper van Beethoven and Built to Spill.

Todd: That makes mine sound boring. The Drones and Built to Spill at the Chameleon.

Lee: I saw Bowie and Tom Petty a couple times.

Ben: I'd say Built to Spill too.

WHAT'S YOUR FAVORITE RECORD?

Todd: The Drones from Australia, Kula Shaker from across the pond. Now it sounds like I don't like American music...

We all spontaneously break into singing the Violent Femmes "American music"

Brandon: Dinosaur Jr.'s new record.

Lee: "40 ounces of Freedom," "Abbey Road," "You in Reverse," by Built to Spill.

WHAT'S YOUR RINGTONE?

Ben: Cake

Todd: I've got several. Beck, Eels, Tegan and Sarah.

Brandon: Ringer number 3.

Ben: What do you have Lee?

Lee plays his ringtone, which is a clip from Boondock Saints.

MORE INFORMATION ON LIGHTS OVER RENO CAN BE FOUND ON THE WEB

(you know, stuff like tour dates, how to buy the record and all that useful stuff) at:

www.myspace.com/lightsoverreno

SOUND CHECK is brought to you every two weeks by **Mike Bardzik** – drummer, recording engineer, owner of Second Story Sound Studios in West Chester and all around good guy.

Visit Mike at: www.secondstorysoundstudios.com

HE SAID SHE SAID / WHERE TWO SINGLES MEET AND REVIEW the food & each other.

JULY 22, 2009 / PAGE 18

BY:
MARY
BIGHAM
WC DISH



THE GIRL:

MICHELLE

AGE: 23

JOB: Event Planner

HOBBIES: Tennis, snowboarding, going to the beach, friends

FIRST IMPRESSIONS?

- **MICHELLE:** I thought he was cute. Because I didn't know what he looked like, he said he would wear a green bucket hat. I was prepared to look for that, but there was free valet parking at the restaurant and as I was getting out of my car I saw him with a green hat in his hand. He saw my blonde hair and my PSU sticker, so he asked if I was Michelle and I said yes. So, I didn't get to see him with the hat on until later when I made him put it on for a picture.

- **BRENT:** It was good. It was definitely good. I saw her in the parking lot and I kinda knew right away that it was her. I was walking up and I had [the hat] in my hand and I thought it was her. We just knew it was each other. I was glad that I saw her and she was cute and it was a good start.

- **MICHELLE:** I don't really have a type, so I was open to whatever. I thought he seemed like a really cool guy and we hit it off. I wasn't really nervous, but this was my first blind date. I just thought going into it that I'd have fun.

- **BRENT:** She was very cute. I had never been on a blind date experience. Before I went I was excited and thought it would be really fun and interesting.

THE CONVERSATION:

- **MICHELLE:** The hostess really liked my dress and she complimented me on it and then later she complimented me on my shoes. He joked



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with her that she was stealing all his lines. Turns out he loves the color yellow and my dress was yellow.

- **BRENT:** I would say that it was slow in that it took awhile to get going because you are meeting someone you don't know and going in completely blind.

- **MICHELLE:** The conversation went really well. I talk a lot but we both kept the conversation going. We talked about where we went to school, where we grew up and shared stories. He has two cats so he was telling me a few stories about them and we had lots of college stories.

- **BRENT:** We didn't go too deep, which is normal for a first date. The conversation really flowed as we got going and we covered a lot of topics.

THE RESTAURANT:

- **MICHELLE:** The restaurant was very good. They sat us outside next to the Brandywine and it was a really nice setting. I liked being outside; there was music playing, but it was low so it was really easy to relax and talk.

- **BRENT:** It's definitely nice. I live in Downingtown and I'm so glad that kind of restaurant is there. The music was good. It was very quiet, pleasant and peaceful outside other than us because we were really chatting. The weather was also perfect, so that was nice.

THE SERVICE:

Michelle: The waiter was very nice and he was amusing, so that made us



THE GUY:

BRENT

AGE: 32

JOB: Mailroom Supervisor

HOBBIES: Soccer, cooking, music, sports, movies, animals (his two cats)

feel really comfortable. He actually was very accommodating and made sure that our food was just how we wanted it.

- **BRENT:** The waiter was excellent; I think his name was Will. From the moment we walked in the service was excellent. I had been there before and each time the greeters are polite and pleasant.

DRINKS AND APPETIZERS:

- **MICHELLE:** We ordered the calamari as an appetizer and I got a mango margarita that was called Lightning and was so good. The calamari was excellent, one of the best I've had. It was cooked very well and the presentation was nice. It was served with a green sauce on the bottom instead of the traditional marinara. I really liked it.

- **BRENT:** I ordered a draft beer. We decided to split an appetizer and we both really enjoyed the calamari. It was excellent. I know 'cause I make my own and it was perfect; they really nailed it. They brought out a little bowl of fancy nuts. That was a neat little treat.

MAIN COURSE:

- **MICHELLE:** I got the trout with a bacon hash and green beans. It was really good, especially the bacon hash

potatoes, which had an excellent flavor. I got another Lightning to go with my dinner, very tasty.

- **BRENT:** I ordered the swordfish with mashed yams and a black bean puree and there was some drizzle on top that was good. The fish was cooked perfectly but I don't think the yams went with the season and the fish. That's just my opinion.

DESSERT:

- **MICHELLE:** I got a chocolate cheesecake that was kind of like fudge, too. It was thicker than a cheesecake but so good.

- **BRENT:** I got an apple dessert. It was kind of like an apple fritter on bread pudding. It was their signature dessert and I ordered a drink called Ice with Limoncello and vodka and something else. It was a little mild but delicious. The waiter said the bar was kinda jammed up, so he made us a Long Beach-style Long Island iced tea with cranberry, sour mix and I think Sprite. I had never had one before and it was really good.

DID YOU GO ELSEWHERE?

- **MICHELLE:** I dropped my car over by his house, which happened to be a block away from Firecreek and then we walked around Downtown. Then

CONTINUED ON PG 19 →

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← CONTINUED FROM PAGE 18

we hung out at his house for a bit. It was nice. We talked and listened to a mix and then he played Pearl Jam. He offered me a drink but I took water because I had to drive home.

• **BRENT:** We actually didn't leave the restaurant until 10 pm and then we went for a little walk around Downingtown, which was very quiet. Then we stopped at my apartment and listened to some music and talked. I was having a good time and didn't think the night needed to end yet.

WAS IT A MATCH?

• **MICHELLE:** Yeah, we got along really well. It was definitely a good match. We met at 7 P.M. and I didn't get home until 12:45 A.M., so we really enjoyed talking to each other. He was a total gentleman; he held each door for me.

• **BRENT:** We hit it off right away and she's a very fun person. I'm not sure if it would be long term, but it was a great match for a date. There was attraction and it was cool.

WAS THERE A KISS?

• **MICHELLE:** No, he walked me to my car. We hugged and

then we exchanged numbers.

• **BRENT:** No kiss.

WILL THERE BE A SECOND DATE?

• **MICHELLE:** Probably. He said he'd give me a call so we'll see.

• **BRENT:** I think so. I wanted to get her number and I know she's local, so I think so she's a quality person.

HOW DID YOU LEAVE IT?

• **MICHELLE:** We didn't really say who would call who so we'll see who calls who. I'm really glad I did it; we just had so much fun. He's a really cool guy.

• **BRENT:** We had a really good time and we talked so much. I told her goodbye and I gave her a hug and made sure I got her number so I can call her.



AMANI'S: FARM FRESH & FABULOUS

BY KATE BRENNAN WC DISH

There's a new restaurant in Downingtown, and I'm not talking about the much-hyped Firecreek. Just down the street, in the spot formerly occupied by Fioravanti's, a little BYO gem called Amani's has quietly joined the ranks of the town's nascent food scene. Amani's, run by husband and wife team Jonathan and Jeanine Amann, may not have seen as much publicity as its steakhouse neighbor, but it's certainly just as worthy of a visit.

Amani's romantic, cheerful farmhouse décor, reminiscent of a scene from Oklahoma!, echoes its philosophy when it comes to food. The concept isn't a new one, but it's still rare – Amani's uses only local, "farm fresh" ingredients, mostly from the Milky Way Farm in Chester Springs.

"We've been wanting to do this for ten years," said owner/general manager Jeanine Amann, whose buoyant personality matches the atmosphere. Jeanine and owner/

chef Jonathan Amann met years ago while working at America Bar and Grill in Chester Springs. The pair gained decades of restaurant experience between them, including opening restaurants in St. John's and Maine, before finally settling down again in Pennsylvania. Aren't we glad they did!

Amani's is clearly a labor of love, and the food reflects this passion. The inspiring menu includes a variety of soups, salads and appetizers, along with dishes from both the sea and land. My meal began with rolls dipped in tomato infused olive oil, followed by a creamy Maryland Blue Crab Bisque with lump crab meat. For an appetizer, I followed the waitress's recommendation of savory Stuffed Button Mushrooms with baby spinach, Danish bleu cheese, blanched walnuts and chives. I typically don't even like mushrooms and I ate the whole dish. For dinner, I enjoyed a tender Espresso-Rubbed Kansas City Steak with an Ancho cherry port

reduction, crispy sweet potato wedges and delicious sautéed green beans.

Despite feeling ready to burst, I ordered the Lemon Mascarpone Cream with fresh raspberry puree in tuille cookie bowl, accompanied by complimentary limoncello made on the premises (after my meal, Jonathan pointed out another batch brewing in a container nearby). Since Amani's is a BYOB, they don't serve drinks with dinner, but they do have a list of tasty cocktails they'll mix with your own bottle of vodka, rum or tequila.

While I certainly applaud Amani's farm fresh philosophy, in the end, I don't care where their ingredients come from – the food is just darn good.

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IN THE STUDIO



BY
BRIAN
MCTEAR
OWNER OF
MINER STREET/
CYCLESOUND
RECORDINGS

THE WEATHERVANE PROJECT

Back in November 2002, a guy named Greg Weeks sent me an e-mail asking me to mix the debut record for his new band, Espers. The album was recorded by Greg. At the time he was a Rochester, N.Y., resident, but he came to Philadelphia to record in the Northern Liberties living room of his new band mate, Brooke Seitensen. The two of them, along with singer and third member of the trio, Meg Baird, had been working on their 8-track reel-to-reel for the past several weeks and were ready to wrap it up

with me at my studio in Philadelphia – Miner Street Recordings.

This week, almost seven years later, Espers are in again for what is now our fourth album together.

It's incredible the things this band has been able to do. They've toured with English folk legends the Incredible String Band, as well as with one of my own favorite bands of all time, Stereolab. They became the favorites of Devendra Banhardt (and toured Europe and the US), and later this

month, they'll be opening for Fleet Foxes here at Philadelphia's Electric Factory.

It's also notable the bands Greg has produced over the years in his home recording studio, Hexham Head in North Philadelphia: a singer songwriter from Madrid Spain named Aroah, Israeli folk singer songwriter Noa Babayoff, Brooklyn's Silver Summit and the legendary Will Oldham for his Bonnie Prince Billy project, as well as a pair of Greg Weeks solo records and many others. I've been lucky enough to mix a lot of those records.

As a recording engineer and studio owner, myself, I feel obligated to clarify that when we talk about his "home recording studio", Hexham Head, is in no way a common home rig, by today's standards. The studio's built around a 2 inch 24-track reel to reel tape machine, and an analog large format mixing console. There's nothing digital about Greg's setup. In fact, he called me a few weeks ago to borrow my CD burner as his had broken. Consequently, so had mine! Recording in Greg's basement has a lot more in common with how people would make records in 1979 than

2009, and this is something we recording enthusiasts seek out and celebrate. The new Espers record is turning out to be one of my favorites yet. As of the time I am writing this, we're into our fourth song, and there's a new found maturity and elegance about this record. Despite their past successes and accumulating popularity, Espers, like most independent artists, have a giant uphill battle, as the old music industry model continues to collapse. I am convinced that this band would have an illustrious career if they had the type of resources artists had ten years ago.

Earlier this year we launched Weathervane Music, a non-profit music organization, designed to insure that our society doesn't lose the great independent artists that are in the same position as bands like Espers. The organization is early in the start-up stages, so we won't likely be able to help as many artists as we'd like at this point, but I beseech you all: support these bands! BUY their records (it won't kill you), and when they play in your area BUY a ticket to see them perform. As for Espers, this record has a release date on Drag City Records in October of this year, and I can tell you with certainty, this will be an excellent record!

The Project Series has been an incredible amount of work, on top of the usual studio load at Miner Street, but we have nonetheless achieved our goal: We can say for certain that Weathervane "IS" not that it "will be," and with that established it's time to get back to the work of securing a future for this organization. Lot's to do!



Greg Weeks of Espers

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– Brian McTear is a musician, producer and engineer, the owner of Miner Street Recordings in Philadelphia, and founder of Weathervane Music Organization. Information, including pictures of the Weathervane Project Series sessions, can be found at <http://weathervanemusic.org>. For more information on Miner Street Recordings, <http://myspace.com/minerstreetrecordings>. Espers - <http://www.myspace.com/espers> Hexham Head Studio - <http://www.myspace.com/hexhamhead> To make a donation, go to <http://weathervanemusic.org/donate>

It's Heating Up in West Chester with Thai Food!

Lord knows I get super giddy with the thought of ordering some Pad Thai from Wave Noodle in WC, but now there is even more reason to get super ex-Thai-ded. (Okay, so that was lame... I was trying to be clever.) West Chester will soon be home to THREE new Thai restaurants!

Jazmine's Thai is new in town this year and is a fine dining restaurant with delicious offerings like my favorite menu items, Thai Chicken Basil, Pad Thai and lots of fun curry dishes. The food is traditional Thai prepared with the freshest ingredients.

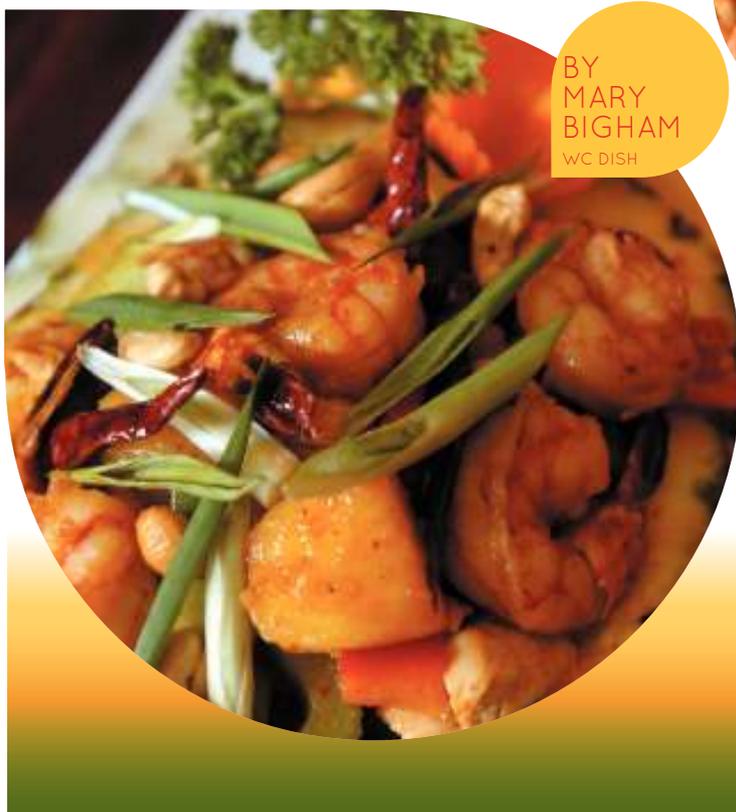
jazminethai.com
344 W Gay St
West Chester, PA
19380-2806
(610) 696-3332

Nooddi Thai Chef is located right next to Market Street Grill on Market Street. They have a spot in Media that has gotten rave reviews. I've not had the pleasure of eating there but I asked my friend that lives in Media about them and he said it's his favorite. I was lucky enough to talk to the new owners before they opened and they said they'd be serving Thai, sushi and vegetarian food as a BYOB. They opened on Thurs., July 16th.

10 W. Market St.
West Chester, PA
19380-2806

The other new spot in town is **Spice Indian Thai Bistro** that is taking its new home where Cosi used to be on Market Street. With their first location in Edgemont on Rt. 3 I've given their Pad Thai and Chicken Tikka Masala a whirl recently and deemed them the best I've had in the area. Yup, that good.

113 W. Market St.
West Chester, PA
19380-2806



BY
MARY
BIGHAM
WC DISH

JULY 22, 2009 / PAGE 21



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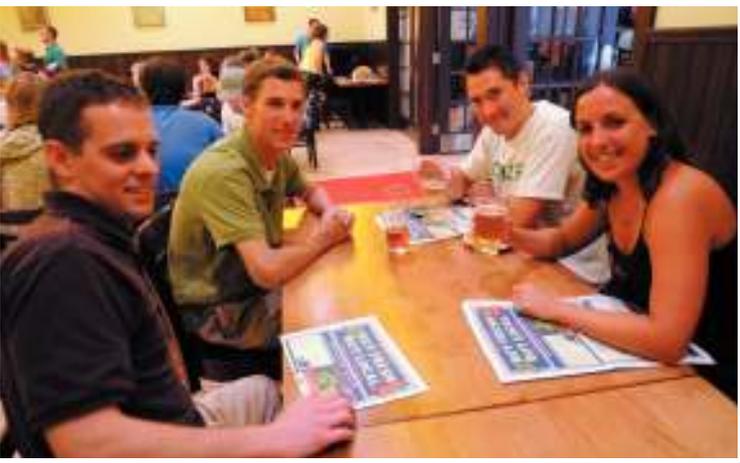
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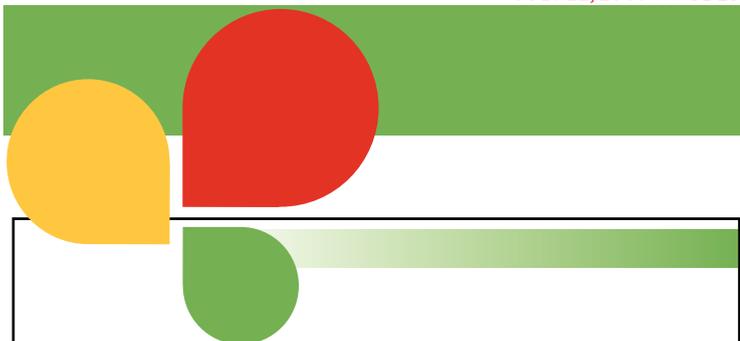
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BUY FRESH BUY LOCAL

*Buy Fresh, Buy Local of Chester County recently partnered with CC for a happy hour to celebrate the launch of the **feedability guide for Chester County**. Thanks to Victory for the food, beer and fun!*





Upcoming Victory Events include:

JULY 27 | Christmas in July at Victory

Celebrate Christmas in July with Old Horizontal. Vintage kegs (2004, 2006, 2007) will be tapped at Victory Brewpub in Downingtown. Pick up a growler and pretend like it's Christmas in the islands. (Growlers available on July 27th only.)

JULY 28 | Farm Fresh Beer Dinner at Victory | 6pm | \$50

Victory will host a locally inspired beer dinner at their restaurant in Downingtown. Meats and produce from local farms will be featured in this five course beer dinner. \$50 pp. Click here for online reservations.

AUGUST 8 | Victory Brew BQ | 12-4pm

Enjoy barbeque and live music on a summer afternoon at over 10 acres at Twin Brook Winery in Gap, PA. Victory's Brew BQ will also be host to a Mid-Atlantic Barbeque Association (MABA) sanctioned barbeque competition. Rain or shine. Free to attend. Interested in the Grill Master and Pit Master Competition... Click here



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BY
SARAH
REESE
SPECIAL TO CC



Drink after drink is handed over the bar, and I brightly enjoy the hazy darkness outside as one customer after the next is stumbling in, weary, incoherent and confused. But my refrigerator isn't stocked with Red Bull, it's filled with milk, and the thick, amber liquids in the glass bottles behind me aren't rum, whiskey or tequila but rather homemade syrups of honey cinnamon, vanilla bean and chocolate hazelnut. While the folks bumbling around are wavering, it's the early morning lack of coffee that they need, not an end of the evening nightcap.

I'm sure there are stark differences between brewing coffee and slinging lager bottles, but when pressed to write about it, I find myself thinking only of the similarities. There's a certain embedded love in both professions that few truly carry - but what exactly is it?

Talkative by nature, I find myself at

home chatting while steaming milk, listening to tales of late last-nights and putting my two-cents in when needed. But to be a good barista, you have to mean it - you can't just bullshit. Much like the stories that come out of those bobbing heads at last call, the gossip that comes out of people in the early morning can be fierce - just how I like it!

Over time, these a.m. ramblings lead to more serious conversations and sometimes, unexpected friendships. There's Mary (contributing editor of this fine publication), who, hours after meeting her, returned to my coffee shop with my very own quart of almond milk to try - she insisted I would love it. Years later, look where we are. For every normal relationship forged, there are ten insane connections you're likely not to forget - I once had an elaborate trip planned to Israel with West Chester's corner fixture, Shelly - I think I was supposed to hide in those suitcases she was always dragging around town. There are also the regulars, the day to day interactions that were light and fun and memorable - Single Macchiato John, the tall, dark and handsome who liked his drinks 'extra wet', and Zoltan, a stoic, accented fellow who made a great character in a friends "When Zombies Attack West Chester" comic.

With the early mornings for baristas and the late nights for bartenders come hours of free time, hoping to be filled. I'm sure some of the lazier folks pencil in naps, but I chose to pursue a life of more satisfying happiness - I squirreled away my tips for months and opened my own business, a little vintage clothing shop in Kennett Square. (Shameless plug - www.headshevintage.com!) Even while sitting in my very own store, I have free time, so I joined forces with Historic Kennett Square and am helping to run their farmers market (www.ksqfarmersmarket.wordpress.com). And while both of these "real-life" jobs are fulfilling, I still can't shake the urge to get up early and connect with a community I've grown to love. You can find me on Tuesdays at Talula's Table - I'll be the chatty one behind the bar.

Sarah spent four years making coffee in West Chester during college and has been at Talula's (www.talulastable.com) since 2007.

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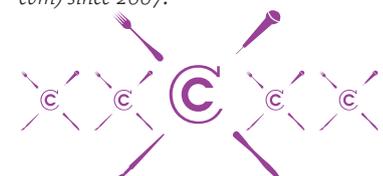
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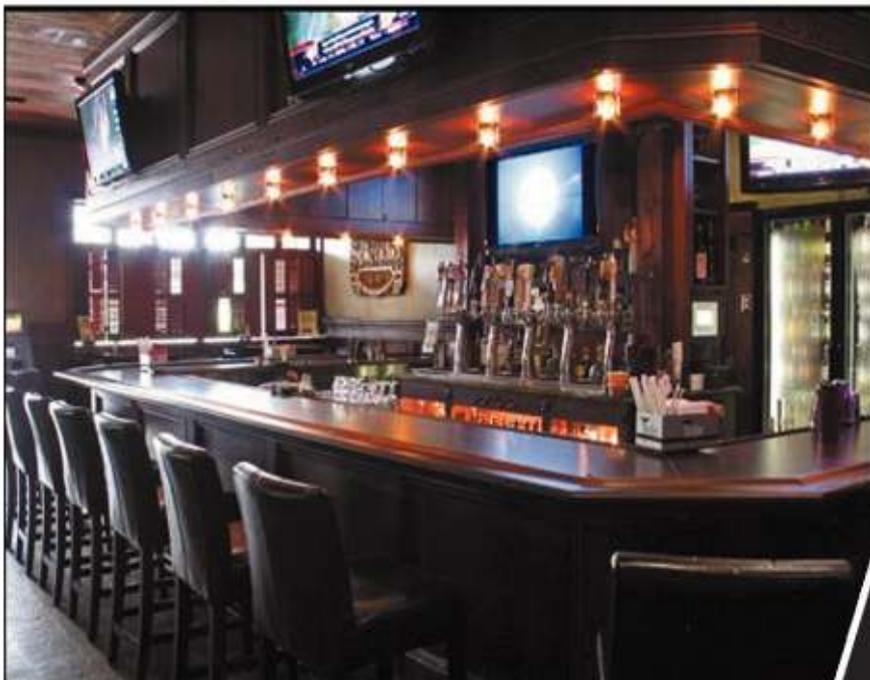
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JULY 22, 2009 / PAGE 26



THE WACHOVIA CENTER, Philadelphia: The Jonas Brothers with Jordin Sparks and Honor Society (July 23 and 24, 7 p.m., sold out); Beyonce (June 26, 7:30 p.m., \$20.75 to \$115.75); Keith Urban with Taylor Swift (Aug. 1, 7:30 p.m., sold out); American Idols Live (Aug. 20, 7 p.m., \$43.50 to \$69.50); Britney Spears (Aug. 30, 7 p.m., \$39.50 to \$498); Pink with The Ting Tings (Oct. 3, 8 p.m., \$39.50 and \$49.50); Miley Cyrus (Nov. 4, 8 p.m., sold out).

THE WACHOVIA SPECTRUM, Philadelphia: Green Day with The Bravery (July 21, 8 p.m., \$25 and \$49.50).

THE SUSQUEHANNA BANK CENTER, Camden, N.J.: Toby Keith with Trace Adkins (July 25, 7:30 p.m., \$34.75 to \$70.75); Lil Wayne with Soulja Boy, Young Jeezy, Drake and Jeremih (July 31, 8 p.m., \$29.96 to \$85.96); Jackson Browne and Steve Earle (Aug. 2, 8 p.m., \$39.50 to \$65); Mayhem Festival featuring Marilyn Manson, Slayer, Killswitch Engage and others (Aug. 7, 2:15 p.m., \$25 to \$32.50); Creed (Aug. 13, 7:30 p.m., \$35 to \$85); Brad Paisley with Dierks Bentley and Jimmy Wayne (Aug. 15, 7:30 p.m., \$26.50 and \$55.25); the Allman Brothers Band and Widespread Panic (Aug. 21, 7 p.m., \$29.50 to \$75); Blink-182 with Weezer, Taking Back Sunday and Chester French (Aug. 27, 6:30 p.m., \$20 to \$69); Rascal Flatts with Darius Rucker (Sept. 11, 8 p.m., \$32.50 and \$73.25); The Dave Matthews Band with Robert Randolph and the Family Band (Sept. 19 and 20, 7 p.m., \$40 and \$75).

FESTIVAL PIER, Philadelphia: Rise Against with Rancid and Billy Talent (July 25, 7 p.m., \$32); Slightly Stoopid with Snoop Dogg and Stephen Marley and Mickey Avalon (Aug. 7, 6 p.m., \$39.50); Incubus with The Duke Spirit (Aug. 8, 7 p.m., sold out); Jason Mraz with G. Love and Special Sauce (Aug. 9, 7 p.m., \$45); OAR with Brett Dennen (Aug. 18, 7 p.m., \$35); The Flaming Lips with Explosions in the Sky, and Stardeath and White Dwarfs (Aug. 29, 7 p.m., \$39.50); Stained with Shinedown and Chivele (Aug. 30, 7 p.m., \$35).

MANN CENTER FOR THE PERFORMING

ARTS, Philadelphia: The Blind Boys of Alabama and Ladysmith Black Mambazo (July 25, 8 p.m., \$28 to \$58); John Legend and guest (Aug. 5, 7:30 p.m., \$70 to \$90); Bonnie Raitt and Taj Mahal (Aug. 8, 7:30 p.m., \$25 to \$79.50); John Legend with India.Arie (Aug. 15, 7:30 p.m., \$25 to \$110); "The Heroes of Woodstock" with Jefferson Starship, Ten Years After, Canned Heat, Big Brother and the Holding Company and Country Joe McDonald (Aug. 18, 8 p.m., \$33 to \$73).

THE TOWER THEATER, Upper Darby: Yes with Asia (July 28, 8 p.m., \$45 to \$95); Dream Theater with Zappa Plays Zappa, Bigelf and Scale the Summit (July 31, 7 p.m., \$55); Tori Amos (Aug. 15, 8 p.m., \$34.50 to \$49.50); Snow Patrol with Plain White T's (Sept. 26, 8 p.m., \$33 to \$40).

THE ELECTRIC FACTORY, 421 N. 7th St., Philadelphia (215-627-1332 or www.electric-factory.info): The Yeah Yeah Yeahs (July 29, 8:30 p.m., \$25); Fleet Foxes with Espers (July 30, 8:30 p.m., \$25); Beres Hammond and Friends (July 31, 10 p.m., \$40 and \$100); Asher Roth and Kid Cudi with B.O.B. and 88 Keys (Aug. 6, 8:30 p.m., \$25); Old Crow Medicine Show with Dave Rawlings' Machine featuring Gillian Welch, The Felice Brothers and Justin Townes Earle (Aug. 7, 8 p.m., \$31.50); The Pretenders with Cat Power and Juliette Lewis (Aug. 13, 7:30 p.m., \$49.50 - moved from Tower Theater); Down With Evil Army and Weedateer (Sept. 12, 8:30 p.m., \$25); Regina Spektor (Sept. 24, 8:30 p.m., \$35); Lebowski Fest Movie Party (Sept. 25, 8:30 p.m., \$20); Porcupine Tree with King's X (Sept. 26, 8 p.m., \$26); Every Time I Die with Bring Me the Horizon, Oh Sleeper and Architects (Oct. 3, 8:30 p.m., \$17.50); The Avett Brothers (Oct. 16, 8:30 p.m., \$26.75); Andrew Bird with St. Vincent (Oct. 25, 8 p.m., \$25); Ani DiFranco (Nov. 20, 8:30 p.m., \$34).

THE KESWICK THEATRE, Easton Road and Keswick Avenue, Glenside (215-572-7650 or www.keswicktheatre.com): Charlie Wilson (July 26, 7:30 p.m., \$47.50); Chris Isaak (July 28, 7:30 p.m., \$49.50 and \$65); Gordon Lightfoot (July 29, 7:30 p.m., \$39 and \$49); David Cook and Green River Ordinance (July 31, 8 p.m., \$35); Tracy Chapman (Aug. 3, 8 p.m., \$47.50 and \$58.50); Hippiefest 2009 with Felix Cavaliere, The Turtles, Chuck Negron, Denny Laine and Badfinger (Aug. 4, 8 p.m., \$49.50); The Neville Brothers with Dr. John (Aug. 25, 7:30 p.m., \$39.50 and \$49.50); Peter Frampton (Aug. 27, 7:30 p.m., \$45 and \$59); David Garrett (Sept. 16, 7:30 p.m., \$32.50); Loggins and Messina (Sept. 18, 8 p.m., \$69.50); Joan Osborne with Sharon Little and Marybeth Hammer (Sept. 20, 4 p.m., \$29.50 to \$44.50); Sinbad (Sept. 26, 8 p.m., \$41.50); David Sedaris (Oct. 4, 7 p.m., \$49.50); Natalie Cole (Oct. 9, 8 p.m., \$59.50); Patton Os-

THEATER OF THE LIVING ARTS, 334 South St., Philadelphia: Honor Society with Potus (July 23, 11 p.m., \$24.50); Paolo Nutini with Erin McCarley and Matt Hires (July 25, 9

p.m., \$20); RX Bandits and Dredg with Zechs Marquise (July 29, 8 p.m., \$16); Xavier Rudd and Jeremy Fisher (July 30, 9 p.m., \$23); Ace Enders and A Million Different People with Person L, The Gay Blades, The Dangerous Summer and School Boy Humor (July 31, 7 p.m., \$12); Tinted Windows with Locksley and Free Energy (Aug. 1, 9 p.m., \$18); Donavon Frankenreiter with Gary Jules (Aug. 6, 9 p.m., \$18); Eagles of Death Metal with Rival Schools (Aug. 7, 9 p.m., \$18); CKY with Graveyard and ASG (Aug. 15, 9 p.m., \$22); Our Lady Peace with Meese (Aug. 16, 8 p.m., \$22); Collective Soul (Aug. 21, 9 p.m., \$29.50); Tarrus Riley (Aug. 22, 9 p.m., \$25); Alice in Chains (Sept. 5, 9 p.m., \$25); Robin Trower (Sept. 23, 9 p.m., \$29.50); Mitchel Musso (Sept. 13, 1 p.m., \$50 and \$20); Ingrid Michaelson (Sept. 17, 9 p.m., \$20); KMFDM with Angel Spit (Sept. 24, 9 p.m., \$25); Mute Math (Sept. 25, 9 p.m., \$22.50); Charlatans UK (Sept. 27, 8 p.m., \$22); Dinosaur Jr. with Bob Mould, and Lou Barlow and the Missinginons (Oct. 9, 8 p.m., \$28); Dragonforce with Sonata Artica and Taking Dawn (Oct. 11, 8 p.m., \$25); Pinback (Oct. 29, 9 p.m., \$14); Deadmau5 (Nov. 22, 8 p.m., \$22.50).

THE AMERICAN MUSIC THEATRE, 2425 Lincoln Highway East, Lancaster (717-397-7700 or www.AMTshows.com): The Golden Boys - Frankie Avalon, Fabian and Bobby Rydell (July 26, 7 p.m., \$70); The Beach Boys (July 27, 8 p.m., \$70); Doo Wop Cavalcade (Aug. 1, 2 and 8 p.m., \$45); Opry Legends Fest II (Aug. 15, 2 and 7 p.m., \$39.50); Sara Evans (Aug. 30, 8 p.m., \$67); Mike Albert and the Imperials (Sept. 4, 8 p.m., \$35); Bill Cosby (Sept. 12, 3 and 7 p.m., \$54 and \$70); Eric Burdon and the Animals with Badfinger (Sept. 13, 7 p.m., \$55); Ray Stevens (Sept. 18, 8 p.m., \$55); Craig Morgan (Sept. 19, 8 p.m., \$55); Charley Pride (Sept. 20, 7 p.m., \$65); Eddie Holman, the Tokens and the Duprees (Oct. 2, 8 p.m., \$40); Bobby Vinton (Oct. 3, 3 p.m., \$59); Three Redneck Tenors (Oct. 4, 7 p.m., \$30); Engelbert Humperdinck (Oct. 5, 8 p.m., \$70); Neil Sedaka (Oct. 6, 8 p.m., \$65); Mark Lowry (Oct. 10 at 3 and 8 p.m., Oct. 11 at 3 p.m., \$30).

THE SELLERSVILLE THEATER, 24 W. Temple Ave., Sellersville (215-257-5805 or www.ST94.com): Cyril Neville with Slo-Mo and Josh Charles (July 23, 8 p.m., \$19.50); Mick Taylor with Todd Wolfe (July 24, 8:30 p.m., \$39.50 and \$50); Earl Klugh (July 25, 9 p.m., \$35); Tannahill Weavers (July 26, 7:30 p.m., \$19.50); Raul Malo with Greta Gaines (July 28, 8 p.m., \$39.50)

walt (Oct. 10, 8 p.m., \$29.50); Ian Anderson plays acoustic Jethro Tull (Oct. 16, 8 p.m., \$45 and \$55); The Fab Faux (Oct. 17, 8 p.m., \$42.50 to \$77.50); "Jukebox Saturday Night" with Bobby Rydell, Peggy March, Emil Stuchio and the Classics and Lenny Welch (Oct. 24, 8 p.m., \$45.50); Brian Wilson (Oct. 29, 7:30 p.m., \$49.50 and \$67); The Capitol Steps (Nov. 1, 3 p.m., \$35); Engelbert Humperdinck (Nov. 6, 8 p.m., \$49.50 and \$59.50); Keb Mo (Nov. 7, 8 p.m., \$32 and \$42); Abba-Mania (Nov. 8, 7:30 p.m., \$32.50); Don McLean (Nov. 13, 8 p.m., \$35 and \$45); Dionne Warwick (Nov. 15, 7 p.m., \$49.50 and \$59.50); The Machine - Pink Floyd tribute (Nov. 27, 8 p.m., \$27 and \$32); Southside Johnny and the Asbury Jukes (Nov. 28, 8 p.m., \$39.50).

THE NOTE, 142 E. Market St., West Chester (800-594-8499 or www.thenote.tickets.music-today.com): Rob Snyder with Parkwright and Winston's Dog (July 21, 8 p.m., \$5); Head Automatica with Cubic Zirconia (July 22, 8 p.m., \$15); Johnny Action Figure with The Tressells, Stone Thrown and Disco Machine Gun (July 23, 8 p.m., \$8); Enstride with Shovelhook, So-raia, Enter the Rooms and Ghost in the Machine (July 24, 9 p.m., \$10); Splintered Sunlight (July 25, 9 p.m., \$10); Meeting in the Aisle with Ritual (July 31, 9 p.m., \$8); The Moxy CD release party with Cheap Seats, The Scenic, Tell All and acoustic performance from The Great American Soundtrack (Aug. 5, 7:30 p.m., \$8); Missing Palmer West with East Hundred, and Andrew Lipke and the Prospects (Aug. 8, 9 p.m., \$8); Kevin Devine featuring Fred Maraschino (Aug. 11, 8 p.m., \$10); Sick Puppies and Hurt with The Veer Union (Aug. 12, 7:30 p.m., \$15); Jim Rose Circus (Aug. 13, 9 p.m., \$15); De La Soul (Aug. 14, 9 p.m., \$30); RebeLution with Giant Panda Guerilla Dub Squad and Iration (Aug. 20, 8 p.m., \$15); Hoots and Hellmouth with Sisters 3 and Mason Porter (Aug. 22, 9:30 p.m., \$12); Red Jumpsuit Apparatus with Monty Are I, The Dares and Go Radio (Aug. 25, 6:45 p.m., \$16.50); Zelazowa with Cheers Elephant, The Courage Pills and The Tressells (Sept. 12, 9 p.m., \$8); Afromotive with Rubblebucket Orchestra (Sept. 17, 8 p.m., \$10); Need to Breathe with Serena Ryder and Green River Ordinance (Sept. 18, 9 p.m., \$10); Owl City with Kate Havnevik (Sept. 19, 6:30 p.m., \$14); Assembly of Dust with the Emmitt Nershi Band (Oct. 2, 9 p.m., \$17); Perpetual Groove (Oct. 9, 9 p.m., \$14); Soulive (Oct. 14, 8 p.m., \$20); Peek A Boo Revue with the Billy D. Lite Trio (Oct. 3, 10 p.m., \$13 - 21 and older); Captured by Robots (Oct. 24, 9 p.m., \$10).

THE AMERICAN MUSIC THEATRE, 2425 Lincoln Highway East, Lancaster (717-397-7700 or www.AMTshows.com): The Golden Boys - Frankie Avalon, Fabian and Bobby Rydell (July 26, 7 p.m., \$70); The Beach Boys (July 27, 8 p.m., \$70); Doo Wop Cavalcade (Aug. 1, 2 and 8 p.m., \$45); Opry Legends Fest II (Aug. 15, 2 and 7 p.m., \$39.50); Sara Evans (Aug. 30, 8 p.m., \$67); Mike Albert and the Imperials (Sept. 4, 8 p.m., \$35); Bill Cosby (Sept. 12, 3 and 7 p.m., \$54 and \$70); Eric Burdon and the Animals with Badfinger (Sept. 13, 7 p.m., \$55); Ray Stevens (Sept. 18, 8 p.m., \$55); Craig Morgan (Sept. 19, 8 p.m., \$55); Charley Pride (Sept. 20, 7 p.m., \$65); Eddie Holman, the Tokens and the Duprees (Oct. 2, 8 p.m., \$40); Bobby Vinton (Oct. 3, 3 p.m., \$59); Three Redneck Tenors (Oct. 4, 7 p.m., \$30); Engelbert Humperdinck (Oct. 5, 8 p.m., \$70); Neil Sedaka (Oct. 6, 8 p.m., \$65); Mark Lowry (Oct. 10 at 3 and 8 p.m., Oct. 11 at 3 p.m., \$30).

THE SELLERSVILLE THEATER, 24 W. Temple Ave., Sellersville (215-257-5805 or www.ST94.com): Cyril Neville with Slo-Mo and Josh Charles (July 23, 8 p.m., \$19.50); Mick Taylor with Todd Wolfe (July 24, 8:30 p.m., \$39.50 and \$50); Earl Klugh (July 25, 9 p.m., \$35); Tannahill Weavers (July 26, 7:30 p.m., \$19.50); Raul Malo with Greta Gaines (July 28, 8 p.m., \$39.50)

and \$50); Lori McKenna with Craig Bickhardt (July 31, 8:30 p.m., \$21.50).

LONGWOOD GARDENS, Route 1, Kennett Square (www.longwoodgardens.org), will be the site of "Garden Grooves" concerts, including: Rufus Wainwright (Aug. 6, 8 p.m.); Etta James and the Roots Band (Aug. 12, 8 p.m.). Tickets are available at www.ticketmaster.com or by calling 800-745-3000.

THE MEDIA THEATRE, 104 E. State St., Media (610-891-0100 or www.mediatheatre.org): "Delco Idol" competition for singers 14 to 24 (Wednesdays at 7 p.m. through Aug. 5); "Delco Idol, Jr." competition for singers 7 to 13 (Sundays at 7 p.m. from July 12 to Aug. 9); Roger Ricker sings Broadway and pop standards (Aug. 12, 7 p.m., \$10).

THE GRAND OPERA HOUSE, 818 N. Market St., Wilmington, Del. (800-37-GRAND or www.TicketsAtTheGrand.org): Queensryche (July 22, 8 p.m., \$29 and \$42); moe. (July 23, 8 p.m., \$25 to \$33).

MILLER PARK CONCERTS MILLER PARK GAZEBO, 220 Miller Way, off Waterloo Boulevard, Exton, will be the site of a concert series this summer. Concerts are Sundays at 6:30 p.m. Bring your own seating. The schedule includes: The Midnight Hour (Aug. 2); Dana Lee and the Highballs (Aug. 16). Visit www.westwhiteland.org for more information.

CHADDSFORD CONCERTS CHADDSFORD WINERY, Route 1, Chadds Ford (610-388-6221 or www.chaddsford.com), presents its summer concert series through Sept. 11 from 7 to 9:30 p.m. Bring your own seating. Gates open at 6 p.m., wine tastings at 6:30 p.m. Tickets are \$22 (reservations recommended). The schedule is: Goodfoot (July 24); The Mandells (July 31); The Rivers (Aug. 7); Big Package (Aug. 14); Been There Done That (Aug. 21); Synthesis (Aug. 28); Opera Night (Sept. 4); Alligator Zydeco (Sept. 11).

NIXON PARK CONCERTS ANSON B. NIXON PARK, Kennett Square (www.ansonbnixonpark.org), will be the site of a summer concert series on Wednesdays from 7 to 9 p.m. Admission is free. Bring your own seating. The schedule is: Latin Salsa Jazz Ensemble from West Chester University (July 22); Craig Bickhardt (July 29); Graham Brown and Budda Dadda (Aug. 5).

CCAA CONCERTS THE CHESTER COUNTY ART ASSOCIATION, 100 N. Bradford Ave., West Chester (610-696-5600 or www.chestercountyarts.org), presents a summer concert series on Wednesdays from 6 to 8 p.m. on the back patio. Admission is free. Bring your own seating. The schedule is: The Blue Sky Band (July 22); Shaw Strings (Aug. 12).

EAGLEVIEW CONCERTS EAGLEVIEW TOWN CENTER, (Wellington Square and Rice Boulevard, Exton (800-851-2779, www.hankingroup.com/Commercial-Corp/Eagleview-Events.php) hosts a concert series this summer. All concerts are free and begin at 7 p.m. The schedule includes: Andrew Lipke and Papertrees (July 21); Christine Havrilla and Liz Longley (July 28); Jim George and Wink Keziah (Aug. 4); The Large Flowerheads and Jim Stanson (Aug. 11); Works Progress Administration and Adrien Reju (Aug. 18) and Entrain (Aug. 25).

TRI-PAC CONCERTS THE TRI-COUNTY PERFORMING ARTS CENTER (245 E. High St., Pottstown) presents: Paradis and his Steel Drum Quartet (July 24, 8 p.m.); Travis Wetzel and his trio perform bluegrass, rock, gospel, country and jazz (Aug. 7, 8 p.m.). Tickets for the series are \$17 (\$14 for students and seniors, \$12 for ages 12 and younger). Discounts available. Visit www.tripac.org or call 610-970-1199.

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← CONTINUED FROM PAGE 26

CONCERTS

"CONCERTS UNDER THE STARS"

THE UPPER MERION PARKS & RECREATION CONCERTS UNDER THE STARS SERIES, Upper Merion Township Building Park (175 W. Valley Forge Rd., King of Prussia, 610-265-1071, www.uppermerionparkandrec.org) presents concerts each Sunday at 7 p.m. through the end of summer. Admission is \$10 (free for seniors and children 16 and younger). The schedule includes: Richard Shindell and Susan Werner (July 26), Eric Martin and Ted Poley (Aug. 2), and Brian Bortnick and Joe Plush Band (Aug. 9).

MYRICK CONCERTS

THE MYRICK CONSERVATION CENTER, 1760 Unionville-Wawaset Road, six miles west of West Chester (610-793-1090, www.brandywinewatershed.org) will present a free concert series this summer. Bring your own seating. Free refreshments at intermission. Shows are held Thursdays at 7:30 p.m. The schedule is: Philadelphia Academy of Performing Arts Choral Ensemble (July 23); The Rob Dickenson Band (July 30); Liz Longley and Sarah Zimmerman (Aug. 6); The Swing Kings (Aug. 13).

ROSE TREE PARK

ROSE TREE PARK, Providence Road, Media (610-891-4663, www.co.delaware.pa.us) hosts concerts on the amphitheater stage. Admission and parking are free. The schedule is: Red Alert (July 22); Round Tower (July 23); The Cat's Pajamas (July 24); the Brandywine Ballet (July 25); Melissa Martin and the Mighty Rhythm Kings (July 26); Beatlemania Now (July 29); Gene Galligan & Friends (July 30); and The Mango Men (July 31); Voloshky Ukrainian Dance Ensemble (Aug. 1); Chico's Vibe (Aug. 2); Bryn Mawr Mainliners (Aug. 5); Adam Monaco and the Woolgathering (Aug. 6); Kayfield and Company (Aug. 7); Big G and the Cool Cats (Aug. 8); and Minas Brazilian Jazz (Aug. 9).

WEST GOSHEN PARK

WEST GOSHEN COMMUNITY PARK, N. Five Points and Fern Hill roads, West Chester (610-692-2550, www.wgoshen.org) is the site of the West Goshen Sunday Summer Concert Series. All concerts begin at 6:30 p.m. and admission is free. The schedule includes: Chester County Concert Band (July 26), Straight Shooter (Aug. 9), Blackthorn (Aug. 23).

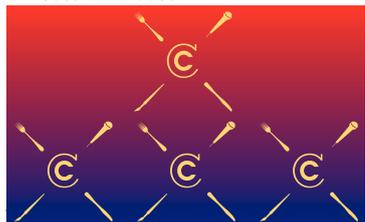
THEATRE

"CAMELOT"

THE LONGWOOD GARDENS OPEN AIR THEATRE, Kennett Square, will be the site of performances of "Camelot" by the Brandywiners on July 23, 24, 25, 30, 31 and Aug. 1 at 8:30 p.m. Tickets are \$25 and include gardens admission for the day. A fountain display set to music will follow the show. For tickets, call 800-338-6965. For more information, visit www.brandywiners.org.

"GUYS AND DOLLS"

AVON GROVE HIGH SCHOOL, West Grove, will be the site of performances of the musical "Guys and Dolls" by the Avon Grove Community Theater on July 24 and 25 at 7:30 p.m. and July 26 at 2 p.m. Tickets are \$10 for adults, and \$8 for students and seniors (children 3 and younger free). Visit www.actheater.org for reserved tickets, or general admission tickets will be sold at the door.



NIGHTLIFE

THE BLARNEY STONE, West Chester Pike, West Chester (610-436-5222). Bar Bingo with cash prizes on Tuesday. Poker on Wednesday (sign-up at 7:30 p.m.). Quizzo on Thursday. DJ on Friday from 9:30 p.m. to 2 a.m. No cover Thursday and Friday (\$3 on Saturday).

BRICKETTE LOUNGE, 1339 Pottstown Pike, West Chester (610-696-9656 or www.brickettelounge.com). Line dancing on Tuesday and Thursday from 8 to 11 p.m. with DJ. Karaoke on Wednesdays from 9 p.m. to 12:30 a.m. Live bands from 9 p.m. to 1 a.m. Smoke-free.

BROWNIES 23 EAST, 23 E. Lancaster Ave., Ardmore (610-649-8389 or www.brownies23east.com). Split Decision (July 22); Splintered Sunlight (July 23).

CAROUSEL BALLROOM, 319 Westtown Rd., Suite P, West Chester (610-701-0600 or www.carouselballroom.com). Group dancing and lessons scheduled. Admission includes appetizers and desserts. No partner necessary.

CEDAR HOLLOW INN, 2455 Yellow Springs Rd. (610-296-9006 or www.cedarhollowinn.com). Call for updated schedule.

DOC MAGROGAN'S, 117 E. Gay St., West Chester (610-429-4046 or www.docmagrogans.com).

DJ Tommy C upstairs on Fridays at 10 p.m. (no cover). Live bands on Saturdays from 10 p.m. to 2 a.m. (no cover). Karaoke at 9 p.m. on Tuesdays. Trivia downstairs on Wednesdays at 9:30 p.m.

KENNETT FLASH, 102 Sycamore Alley, Kennett Square (484-732-8295 or www.kennettflash.org). Blue Monday Jam on Mondays at 8 p.m. Del Bittle's Bluegrass jam every Thursday at 8 p.m. Admission \$3 for players and \$5 for audience. Open Mic every Sunday at 7 p.m., hosted by Butch Zito. Admission \$4

THE LOUNGE, 246 Eagleview Blvd., Exton (610-594-0269). Open daily at 4 p.m. Free pool on Tuesdays. Karaoke on Wednesdays at 9 p.m.

MADDIE'S RESTAURANT, BAR AND HOTEL, 330 E. Lancaster Ave., Frazer (610-644-2722 or www.maddies.com). Open every day from 3 p.m. to 2 a.m. Games, sports bar and live music. Acoustic music by the Human Rain Delay Duo on Thursdays from 9 p.m. to 1 a.m. Live bands Fridays and Saturdays from 10 p.m. to 2 a.m.

MCKENZIE BREW HOUSE, 451 Wilmington-West Chester Pike (Route 202) (610-361-

9800 or www.mckenziebrewhouse.com). Entertainment (July 22); karaoke (July 23).

MCKENZIE BREW HOUSE, Lancaster Avenue, one mile east of Route 352, Malvern (610-296-2222). Entertainment: (July 22); John Pompeo at 8 p.m. and karaoke at 9 p.m. (July 23).

MR. E'S TAVERN, 313 W. Kings Highway, Coatesville (610-384-4356 or www.mrestavern.com). Karaoke contest with DJ Kalaya on Tuesdays from 8:30 p.m. to 12:30 a.m.

THE OCTORARO HOTEL & TAVERN, 2. South 3rd Street, Oxford, (610-932-2290 or www.myspace.com/octorarobookings: Lenne-nUK, Person Parcel, Her Electronic Ego (July 25); Writtenhouse (October 11)

SPENCE CAFE, 29 E. Gay St., West Chester (610-738-8844 or www.spencecaferestaurant.com). Visit online for updated schedule.

STEEL CITY COFFEE HOUSE, 203 Bridge St., Phoenixville (610-933-4043 or www.steelcity-coffeehouse.com). Mad Poets Society Open Mic on the First Tuesday of the month. Every other Tuesday is Acoustic Open Mic hosted by Leigh Goldstein. Every Wednesday "Steel City Sessions" from 8 to 10 p.m.

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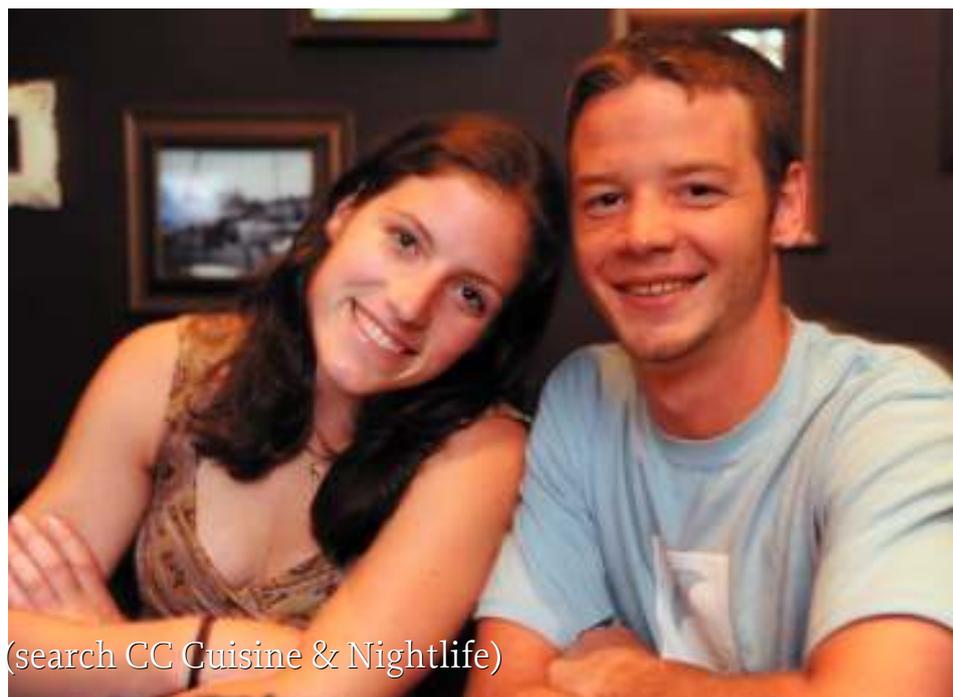
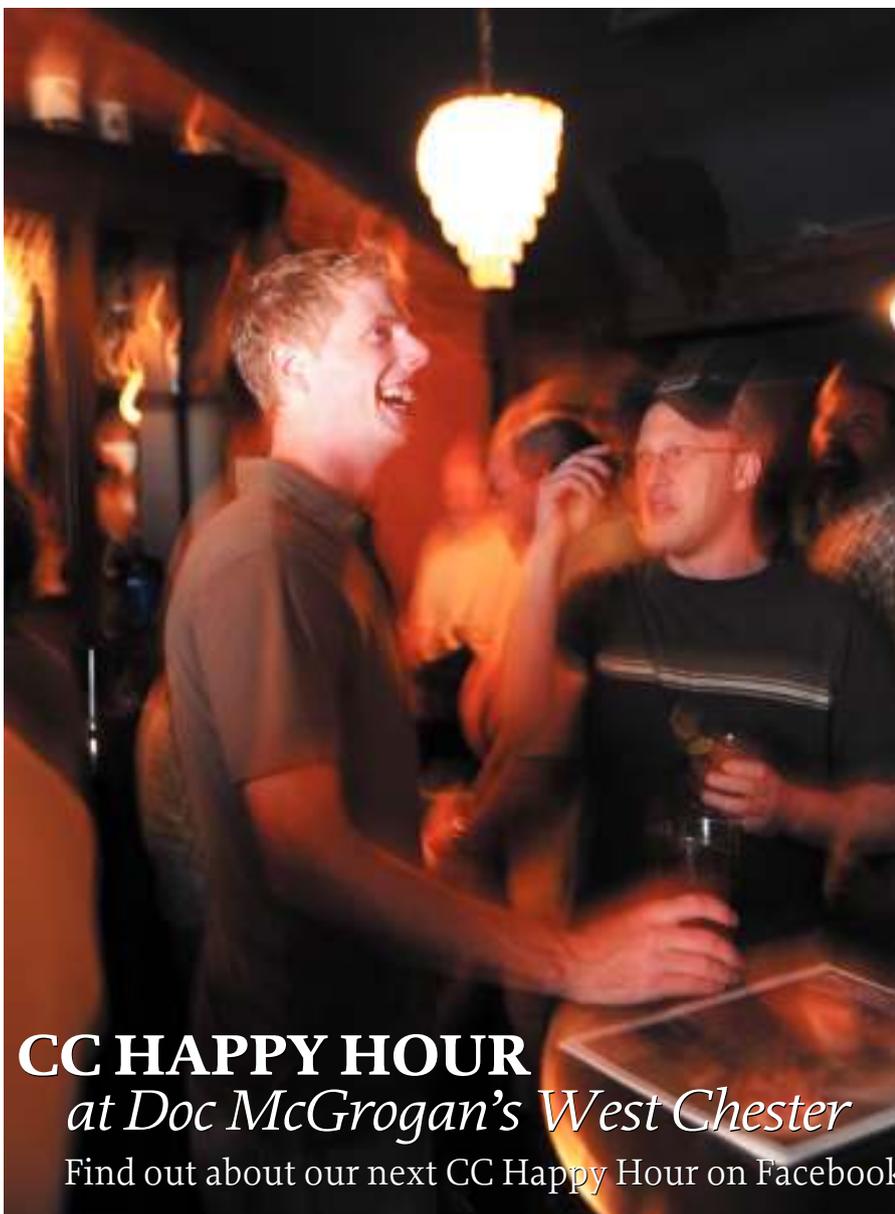
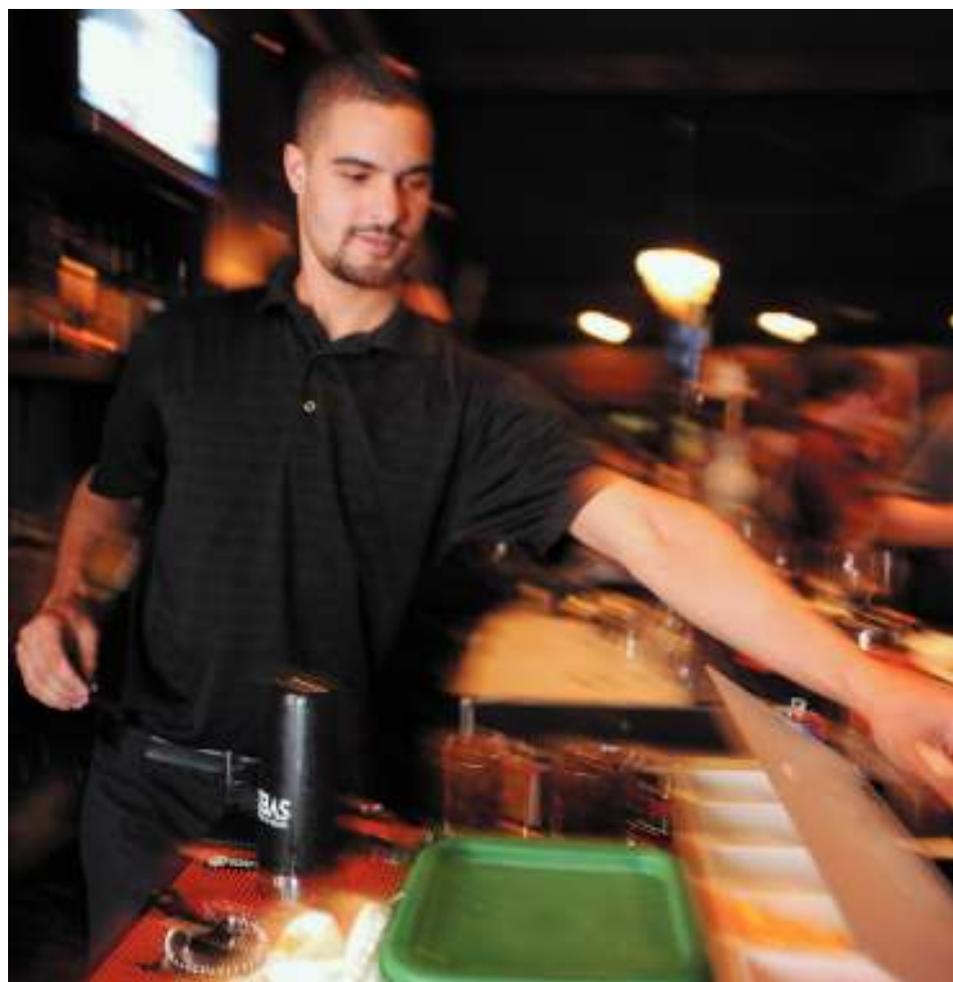
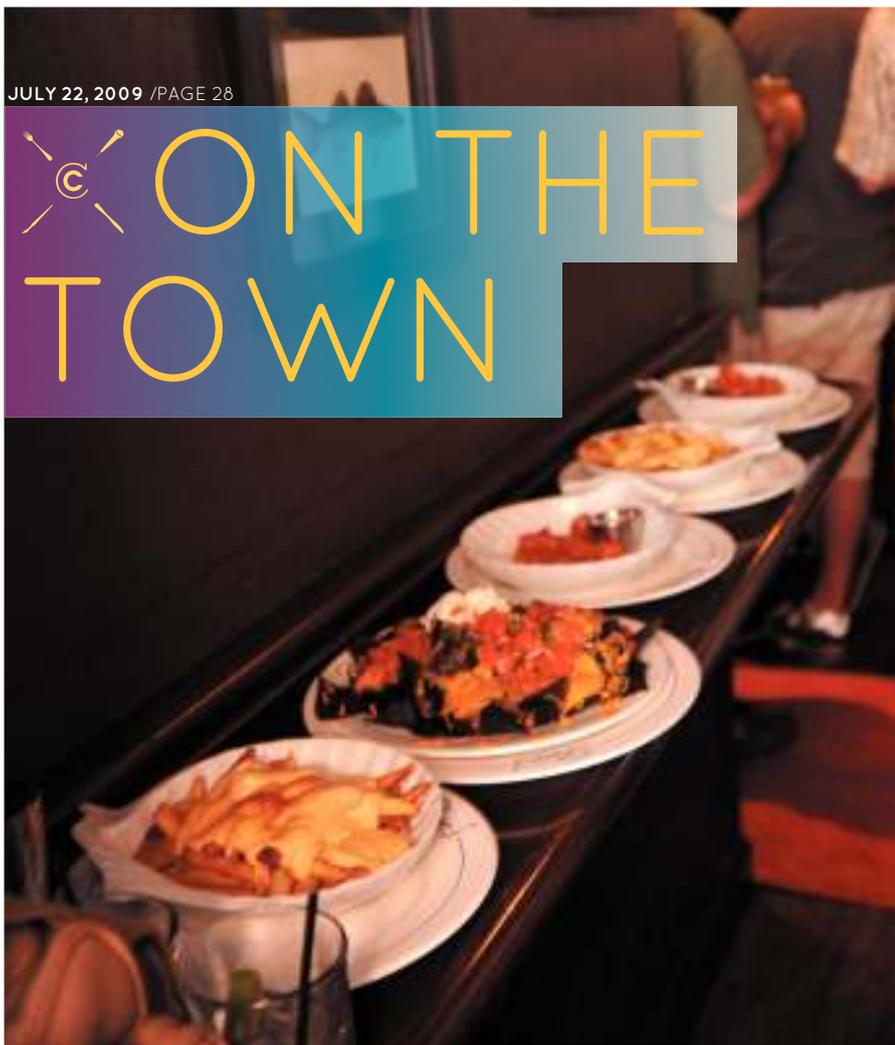
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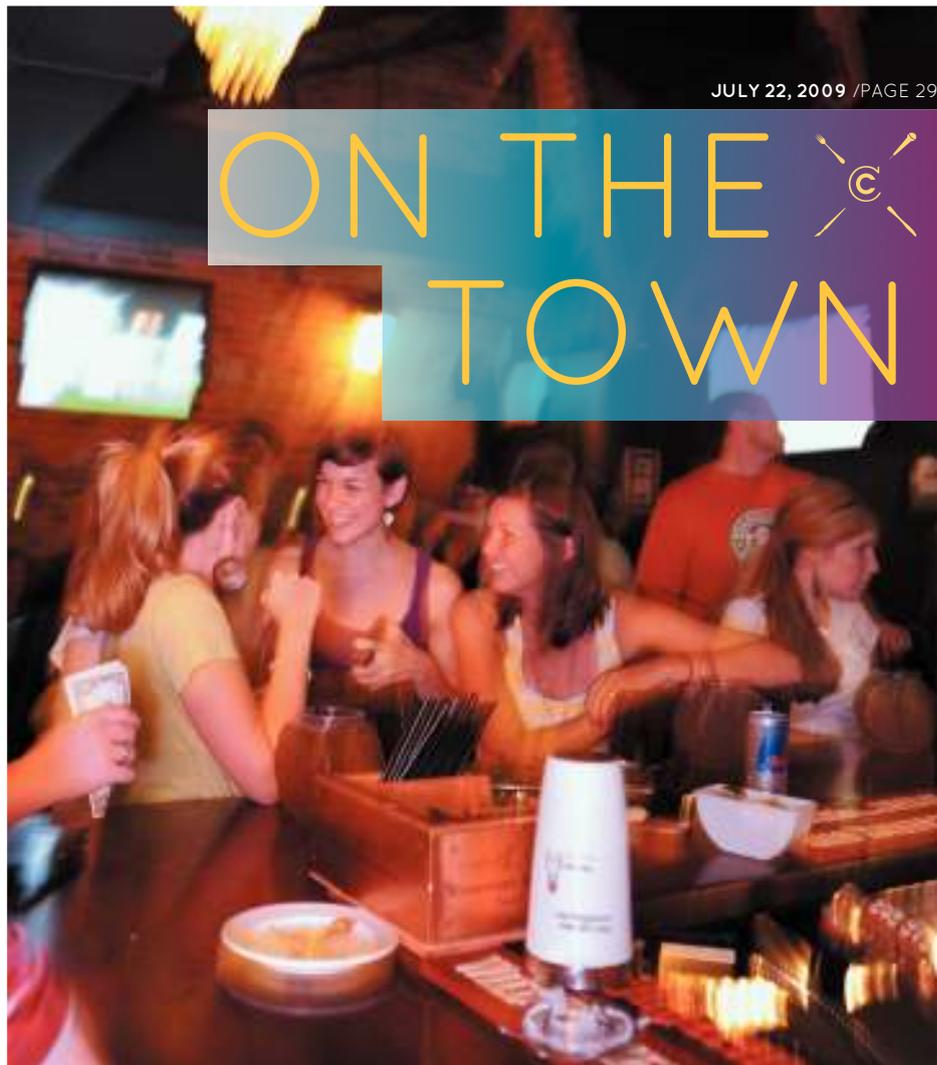


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STUFFED FLANK STEAK

Figuring out what to make for dinner when you are a busy single lady isn't always the easiest thing to do. Add to that wanting to impress someone with a fantastic meal (as some women say, food is the way to a man's heart...) and it can be a little daunting if you don't consider yourself a gourmet chef.

This quick and easy recipe will cook itself all day in the crockpot while you are busy getting ready for the big night, which should include picking up a couple of bottles of a meaty red wine...I suggest Malbec because I am very enthusiastic about South American wine! I assure you, everyone will be impressed with this dish. And once you get the hang of making it, I promise you will want it to be a regular on your dinner table!

What to buy:

- 1 large (2 lbs at least) flank steak, found in the meat section of any supermarket
- 1 box of stuffing (cornbread tastes best)
- 1 cup of celery, finely chopped

- 1 cup of white onion, finely chopped
- 1/4 cup of parsley, freshly chopped (I cheat and use dried and adjust to the recommended amount)

- 2 eggs
- 1 1/4 cup of beef broth (1 can will do it for you)

- 1/3 cup Butter, melted down (about 45 seconds in the microwave)

- 1/2 teaspoon seasoned salt (Jane's Crazy Mixed-Up Salt is something everyone should own!)

- 1 teaspoon fresh pepper (freshly ground is always better)

- 1 teaspoon poultry seasoning

- Cooking string

- Large crockpot (I use a 5-quart one)

How to make it:

Finely chop the onions, celery and parsley. If you are usually pressed for time in the morning, chop everything up the night before and keep it in the refrigerator.

Mix together the stuffing, celery, onions, parsley in a large bowl. In a smaller bowl beat the eggs, add the broth and melted butter and mix well.

Once both the stuffing mix and the broth mix are ready, mix them together in the large bowl. Add all of the seasonings to the mixture and stir together well. I usually add some garlic and salt to this mixture, by smell. Make sure to do this ahead of prepping the meat, so it gives it time to come together and not be so runny. Set aside about a cup or so of the stuffing mixture for use later.

Unroll the flank steak out of the package and lay it flat. I recommend pounding it down to about a 1/2 inch thick. Even if it comes about that thick, I still recommend pounding it in order to stretch it out a bit and tenderize the meat. If you don't have a meat tenderizer you can cover the meat with plastic wrap and use a heavy pan.

When the steak is pounded and the stuffing mix is ready to go, cut 3 lengths of string. [Note: This is the hardest part of the preparation.] Spread the stuffing mixture evenly across the steak and leave an inch of open space around the edges to avoid fall out. After you spread

out the mixture, roll the steak (as you would a large jelly roll) and tie it in the middle with the string. Then tie it as close to each end to secure it closed. I have found that lining the bottom of the crockpot with foil allows for easier removal because after it cooks for 7 hours on low it becomes very soft. If you choose not to do so, removing it with 2 spatulas and a lot of care will work just fine.

Bake in the oven the remaining cup or two of stuffing that you set aside when dinner is about ready. If you prefer moister stuffing securely wrap it in tin foil and lay it over the flank steak in the crock pot, which will allow it to be the same texture as the stuffing in the steak. Once you remove the steak, let it sit for about 10 minutes. Then remove the string and cut it into slices about an inch thick and serve.

Sides:

I usually serve the flank steak with brown gravy (and brand from the store) and a vegetable like broccoli served with a hollandaise sauce.

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MALVERN 3+br new kit den bsmt garg yard Bring pets \$1000
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WEST GOSHEN 7rms new kitchen w/d No credit chk pets \$1150
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1st flr., 1 BR, lg apt, W & D, heat & HW incl. No pets \$935/mo. Call (610)696-1414

950 Apts. For Rent (Unfurn)
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Attention all penny pinchers! Before you lease elsewhere, check out the special we are currently running. How about a 2BR 1BA apartment for \$795/month?
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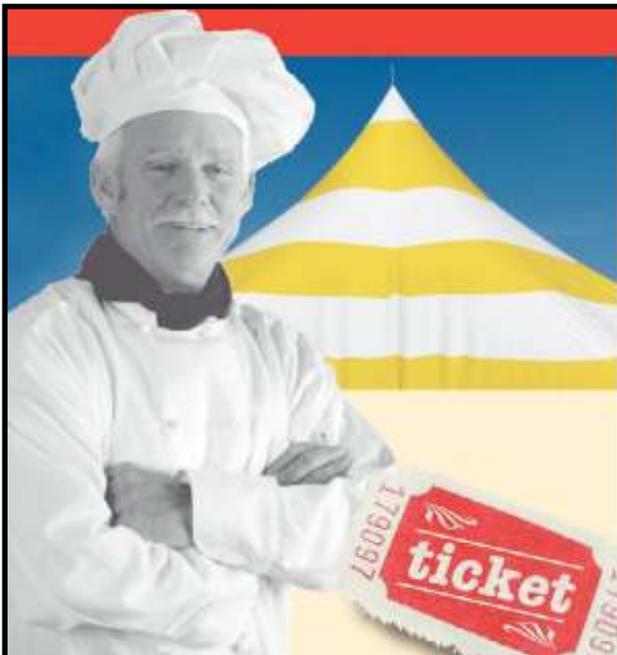
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MENU



- Brandywine Black Angus Pit Beef*
- Hickory-wood Roasted BBQ Spare Ribs
- Slow-roasted Pulled Pork Sandwiches*
- Cajun BBQ Chicken
- Whole Roasted Pig*
- Grilled Hebrew National® Hot Dogs
- Char-broiled Burgers
- Original Gardenburger®
- Brandywine Famous French Fries

Assortment of home-made salads,
side-dishes, deserts, and beverages.

*Served weekends only.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Jun	Sat	13	Your family picnic park
	Sun	14	
	Sat	20	
	Sat	27	
Jul	Fri	3	Special Menu, Times & Price
	Sat	4	Special Menu, Times & Price
	Sat	11	
	Sun	19	
	Sat	18	
	Sat	25	
Aug	Sat	1	Fireworks & Dead Poets Band
	Sat	8	
	Sat	15	Annual Church Day
	Sat	22	
	Sat	29	
Sept	Sat	12	
	Sun	13	

Family Fun—

from canoeing the Brandywine River, climbing our rock wall, to miniature golf or jumping on the Tornado ride for **Lasting Memories**.

Enjoy our exceptional

All You Can Eat Gourmet Barbeque

from our hickory wood BBQ'd ribs to award winning fries.

Fun for the whole family—**Endless Activities** for kids and adults.



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Picnic Park**

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